



## Full Council Meeting

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Number: FC040

### To consider the quotes for Solar Panels to be installed at the Queen's Hall

#### 1. Introduction

As part of Cuckfield Parish Council's aim to become more energy efficient and Carbon Neutral by 2050, actions have been put in place at the Queen's Hall to reach the targets set in the Carbon Reduction Plan. One of the long-term actions to investigate is the possibility of installing Solar Panels on the Queen's Hall roof. With the help of the Conservation Officer, we have identified the side of the roof where Solar Panels could potentially be installed, subject to planning permission. Two separate companies came to visit the site to assess the potential and give us quotes.

At the last Community Buildings Committee meeting, the Committee resolved to recommend the Solar Dynamics quotes be considered at the next Full Council meeting for approval.

Therefore, please find below the Solar Dynamics quotes for the Council's review and decision:

#### 2. Solar Dynamics Quotes, based in Southwater, Sussex

<https://www.solardynamics.co.uk/>

Three quotes are proposed with a 10% discount that is applied to community buildings:

<u>Quote 1 with battery</u> (attached) 50 panels with Inverter and Battery Storage system	£25,274.48 (£0.00 VAT)
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<u>Quote 2 without battery</u> (attached) 50 panels with Inverter	£17,439.43 (£0.00 VAT)
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<u>Quote 3 with battery</u> (attached) 40 panels with Inverter and Battery Storage system	£23,241.44 (£0.00 VAT)
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Recommendations from Solar Dynamics:

After looking at CPC power consumption, 50 panels may not be necessary if the building intends to carry on with its normal business as has been demonstrated over the past year's

electricity bills, however if more power is going to be required in the future, then the 50 panels may be required (50 panels would future proof the building).

The battery system storage allows for use of the power that CPC would have generated during the day in the evening, or for charging the batteries during the winter from late night discounted rates for use the next day. Batteries are one of the more expensive components in the system and are beneficial if evening use is required and can be added at a later date and as many as 5 batteries can be added to a single inverter.

If Solar Dynamics were to be offered the contract for this project, they can have the installation done during any week of the summer by fast tracking the project and having the scaffolding up and down between Monday and Friday so not to disturb any of the weddings or events that are planned for the building. Solar Dynamics are passionate about serving Cuckfield as one of the director's parents were the landlords of the White Hart in Cuckfield and were also Mayors of the town.

Solar Dynamics apply a 10% discount to community buildings, and they have applied the same discount to Haywards Heath Rugby Club for which they will be installing a large array to that building in a few weeks' time.

### **3. Recommendation**

Solar Dynamics provided high level detailed quotes and visited the site to assess the installation potential on the roof and checked the loft space. They also have a good understanding of our electricity consumption. Electric Statements with the latest tariffs were provided to allow for a more accurate idea on how the system generation will affect our annual electrical costs.

If we consider the use of the hall, it is recommended to have the Inverter and Battery Storage system, but whether 40 or 50 panels are installed that would be down to the Council's decision, bearing in mind that panels and more batteries can be added at a later stage.

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Date: 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024